

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

UNCLAS YEREVAN 000657

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR EUR/CACEN, EB/TPP/BTA FOR JPSCHUTTE, USTR FOR  
KKUHLMAN, USTR/GENEVA FOR AGREENIDGE

SENSITIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ETRD](#) [ECON](#) [AM](#)

SUBJECT: ARMENIA PUSHING HARD ON JACKSON-VANIK

[1](#)1. (U) This cable is sensitive but unclassified. Please protect accordingly.

[1](#)2. (SBU) Deputy Minister of Trade Tigran Davtyan called for a meeting with us March 17, 2004 to protest the failure of the United States to graduate Armenia from the restrictions of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment. Davtyan said that Jackson-Vanik puts Armenia in the same legal position (i.e., non-application of WTO) with the United States as with Turkey, a fact which he described as "uncomfortable." He also pointed out that the U.S. graduated Georgia from Jackson-Vanik within six months of its accession to the WTO. "We want equal treatment" with Georgia, Davtyan insisted. He also argued that uncertainty based on Armenia's year-to-year need for waivers or findings of compliance discouraged investment in trade with the United States. Davtyan added that he avoids the topic of the United States' non-application status when speaking to businessmen or the public, but that as time goes on he foresees the situation becoming "very embarrassing."

[1](#)3. (SBU) Davtyan told us that the Armenian Embassy in Washington had been instructed to deliver a similar message, and that the GOAM had resolved to push the issue strongly on all fronts because they feel that too much time has passed with no movement forward.

WALKER